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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" On the same point of casting an aspersion as between the Members of the State Assembly and Members of Parliament from Malabar, I may state that a letter was sent by me to the Hon. the Health Minister of Madras and I had not the pleasure of getting a reply."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Letters need not be replied to, but action was immediately taken."

Alignment of Cape-Comorin-Bombay Highways via Taliparamba.

*388 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government received any communication recently from the Central Government on the alignment of Cape-Comorin-Bombay Highways via Taliparamba and if so, the contents thereof? 10-10 a.m.

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Yes. The communication cannot be published but it may be stated that it calls for information to help a decision being reached."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any representations have been received from the public of the place to the effect that an injustice has been done to them by the recommendation to the Central Government of the Officer of the Highways Department concerned for changing the alignment of the road?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Representations have been made to this Government as well as the Central Government and representations have been made to me personally by the hon. Member also. We have taken steps to gather information on this question and we will be forwarding the information to the Government of India whose decision will be final."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I may tell the hon. Member that there is a fair chance of Taliparamba people winning in the matter."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I seek an assurance from the Government that this conflict will not be used to put off or shelve the construction of the highway? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" We cannot raise an issue and afterwards complain about it. The issue has been raised and I saw thousands of leaflets pasted on every avenue tree. A certain amount of delay is inevitable, as the claim and the counter-claim have to be taken into account."

* 374 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" Sri R. Kuppuswamy has written to me saying that he came late and apologising for it. He requests that the question standing in his name may be taken up now, and I am allowing him to put the question."

[7th January 1954

Repairs to the Jedarpalayam bed regulator.

SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Jedarpalayam bed regulator was completed in the Salem district;

(*b*) the cost of the scheme;

(*c*) whether any major repairs were carried out to it recently;

(*d*) if so, the cost of the repairs; and

(*e*) whether the defects noticed were due to the defects in design or execution?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) In 1949.

" (*b*) Rs. 7,08,600.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) About Rs. 1,06,181–7–0

" (*e*) No."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MALABAR TENANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953 (L.A. BILL NO. 12 OF 1953)—DISCUSSION—*cont.*

* SRI A. APPU :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was a member of the Joint Select Committee. I have appended a minute of dissent to the report of that Committee and my object is to make the Members of the House know something about the history of the tenancy problem in the Malabar district. No doubt, the Bill as it has emerged from the Select Committee is a good one. But it will not solve the problem. I am not an expert. But I have consulted persons of experience and high position in Government service such as Judges and so on. Their view is that unless the tenants are given permanent fixity of tenure and the janmis assured of fair rent, the problem cannot be solved at all. There is still agitation going on in Malabar. I have traced the history of tenancy agitation in Malabar from 1881 onwards in my dissenting minute. But it has a still older history. I had an opportunity of going through Government publications dating from 1749 onwards. There was agitation in those times also, and there were a number of cases of murder and arson. In the taluks of Wynaad and Walluvanad, Muslims form a majority of the population. As a result of persecution by janmis, there were Moplah risings on several occasions. On these occasions, several janmis were killed. In 1921 there was a Moplah rebellion in which several janmis were beheaded. I know of certain instances in which big janmis were taken to the river sides and their heads were cut off. Such unhappy incidents were common till 1921. Fortunately, there has